

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A space-dividing wall panel system comprising:

a plurality of generally rectangular upright wall panels serially connected together so as to define a vertically enlarged wall extending upwardly from a floor, each said wall panel having upper and lower edges which are vertically spaced apart and opposite ends which are laterally spaced apart, and further having a panel frame disposed in load-bearing relation with the floor;

said panel frame comprising a pair of laterally spaced vertical uprights defining said opposite ends of said wall panel and horizontal first and second cross members extending laterally between said uprights, said first and second cross members being disposed in vertically spaced relation and having opposite ends rigidly connected to said uprights so as to define an open interior of said panel frame, each said upright having a width defined between opposite outward facing side surfaces thereof, ~~each of said first and second cross members being horizontally enlarged so as to each have a width defined by laterally extending side surfaces~~

said wall panel further including a plurality of cover panels which are mounted on said panel frame to enclose said open interior, said cover panels having interior panel surfaces spaced outwardly of said uprights such that outer panel surfaces of said cover panels define a panel width that is greater than said width of said uprights, said first cross member wall panel including at least one elongate laterally elongate channels first channel extending laterally between said opposite ends thereof on opposite sides of said wall panel, said first channel channels being disposed outwardly of said side surfaces of said uprights in a non-interfering

relation therewith and having opposite first and second open ends which open laterally from said opposite ends of said ~~base wall panel~~, each said first-channel adapted to be aligned with a serially-adjacent one of said ~~first-channels~~ of a serially-adjacent wall panel;

each serially-adjacent pair of said ~~first-channels~~ having said first open end of one said ~~first-channel~~ aligned in communication with said second open end of ~~the other another~~ said ~~first-channel~~ to define a ~~continuous~~ an uninterrupted first-mounting track extending laterally between said serially-connected wall panels, each said first-mounting track being accessible from an exterior of said ~~basewall~~ panels wherein at least one said mounting track is an intermediate track spaced vertically from said upper and lower edges; and

at least one connector assembly ~~having mounting means being provided for mounting a workstation component thereto and, said connector assembly having a connector means for arrangement connecting said connector assembly to said first mounting track of said base panel, said connector means having arrangement comprising a hook-like member adapted to slidably engage said first channel, said connector means being slidable between serially-adjacent base panels along said first track.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim ~~21~~, wherein each of said first and second cross members respectively include a pair of said ~~first and second~~ channels, said channels of each said pair being disposed outwardly from and on opposite sides of each said upright ~~such that to define a pair of said first and second mounting tracks which are accessible from respective opposite sides of said wall panel.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second cross members is a ~~box-like cross-beam~~ box beam structure which extends laterally between said uprights ~~and has opposite~~

~~ends thereof rigidly connected to the uprights, said cross beam-box beam structure having a vertically enlarged height defined by upper and lower walls-beam edges thereof which is a substantial portion of the vertical height of said uprights, and said width defined by said side surfaces on opposite sides thereof which are vertically enlarged and extend vertically between said upper and lower walls, said side surfaces of said box-beambox beam being spaced outwardly from said respective side surfaces of said uprights~~at least one of said upper and lower beam edges includes said channels extending therealong.

5. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 4, wherein said ~~first channel is~~channels are disposed on both of said cross beamupper and lower beam edges so as to respectively open upwardly and downwardly.

6. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 4, wherein said ~~box-beambox beam structure~~ has an interior defined by vertically between said upper and lower walls and said opposite side facesbeam edges, said interior including an interior core therein which provides structural strength to said ~~box-beambox beam structure~~.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 81, wherein said open interior defines an interior raceway for receiving cabling therein and at least one said cover panel is adapted to cover one of said upper and lower raceways~~horizontal raceway~~ on one side thereof, said cover ~~panel-panels~~ being connected to said frame by mounting means for mounting said cover ~~panel-panels~~ in an outwardly spaced relation from said side surfaces of said uprights to define a horizontal passage between each said outward facing side surface and ~~an opposing~~said inward facing interior panel surface of said cover panel, said horizontal raceway opening

laterally from said opposite ends of said wall panel through said respective passages defined by said uprights.

10. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 9, wherein each said cover panel is defined by horizontal upper and lower edges, and a horizontally elongate gap is defined along at least one of said upper and lower horizontal edges of said cover ~~panels~~ panel is spaced vertically from an adjacent one of said first, second or third cross members to define a horizontally elongate gap ~~therebetween which~~ said gap is in communication with ~~one of said upper and lower raceway~~ said horizontal raceway to permit entry and exit of cabling to and from said horizontal raceway.

11. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 1, wherein at least one said first mounting track opens upwardly along a longitudinal length thereof, said hook-like member of said connector assembly including a downwardly depending leg which seats within said ~~first mounting track~~ and is slidable therealong.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) A space-dividing upright wall panel disposed in a load-bearing relation with a floor, comprising:

a pair of laterally spaced apart vertical uprights ~~defining proximate~~ opposite ends of said wall panel, each said upright having outward facing side surfaces on opposite sides thereof which define a width of said uprights;

at least one ~~box-like cross beam~~ box beam structure which extends laterally between said uprights ~~and has opposite ends thereof rigidly connected to said uprights~~, said ~~cross beam~~ box beam structure having a vertically enlarged height defined by upper and lower ~~walls~~ edges thereof which is a substantial portion of a vertical height of said uprights, and a width

defined by vertically enlarged side faces on opposite sides thereof which face outwardly and extend vertically between said upper and lower ~~wall~~edges, said side faces being spaced outwardly from said respective side surfaces of said uprights such that said width of said ~~cross-beam~~beam structure is greater than said width of said uprights;

at least a first cross member connected between said uprights a vertically spaced distance from said ~~cross-beam~~beam structure, a horizontal ~~first~~raceway being defined by an open interior of said wall panel which is formed vertically between said first cross member and said ~~cross-beam~~beam structure and extends laterally between said uprights, a frame of said wall panel being defined by said uprights, ~~cross-beam~~ and said first cross member; and

at least one cover panel ~~adapted to cover which covers~~ said horizontal raceway on one side thereof, said cover panel being ~~connected to said frame by mounting means for mounting~~mounted on said ~~cover~~wall panel in an outwardly spaced relation from said side surfaces of said uprights to define passages, each said passage being defined between said upright side surface and an opposing inward facing surface of said cover panel, said passages opening laterally from said opposite end of said wall panel such that said ~~first~~raceway opens laterally from said opposite ends of said wall panel through said respective passages.

15. (Currently Amended) The wall panel according to Claim 14, wherein said upper wall ~~edge~~of said ~~cross-beam~~beam structure ~~extends outwardly of said side surfaces on opposite sides of said uprights, said upper wall including~~ includes at least one elongate ~~first~~mounting channel extending between said opposite ends thereof, said ~~first~~mounting channel being spaced outwardly from said side surfaces of said uprights and having opposite first and second open ends which open laterally from the opposite ends of said ~~base wall panel, each serially adjacent pair of said first channels of a serially adjacent pair of said base panels~~ base wall panel having said first open end of one said first channel aligned

~~in communication with said second open end of the other said first channel to define a laterally elongate first track, said first track mounting channel being accessible from an exterior of said base panels for mounting of wall panel components thereto.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The wall panel according to Claim 15, wherein said lower wall edge of said cross beambox beam structure extends outwardly of said side surfaces on opposite sides of said uprights, said lower wall also including includes at least one said first mounting channel disposed outwardly of said uprights.

17. (Currently Amended) The wall panel according to Claim 15, which includes at least one connector assembly for slidable connection to said first track mounting channel, said first track mounting channel on said upper edge opening upwardly and said connector assembly including a downwardly depending leg which seats within said track mounting channel and is continuously slidable therealong, said connector assembly including a furniture component connected thereto.

18. (Currently Amended) The wall panel system according to Claim 17, wherein at least one of upper and lower horizontal edges of said cover panel is spaced vertically from an adjacent one of said cross beambox beam structure and said cross member to define a horizontally elongate gap therebetween, said gap being in communication with said first raceway for providing permitting entry and exit of cabling to said wall panel.

19.-33. (Cancelled)

34. (New) The wall panel system according to Claim 5, wherein said connector assembly includes one said hook-like member which engages said channel on said upper beam edge and one said hook-like member which engages said channel on said lower beam edge.

35. (New) The wall panel system according to Claim 21, wherein said channels on said upper and lower beam edges respectively open upwardly and downwardly and said respective hook-like members project downwardly and upwardly into said respective channels.

36. (New) The wall panel according to Claim 17, wherein said furniture component is a work surface.

37. (New) The wall panel according to Claim 18, wherein said furniture component is a work surface, said gap being disposed adjacent an inner edge of said work surface.

38. (New) The wall panel system according to Claim 37, wherein one said connector assembly is provided on each opposite end of said work surface, said wall panel is a first wall panel adapted to be connected to a second said wall panel in end-to-end relation wherein said connector assemblies are mountable to a single said wall panel or to said first wall panel and said second wall panel.

39. (New) A wall panel assembly for an office furniture system, the wall panel assembly comprising:

a frame having vertical frame members and a box beam structure which extends horizontally along a lateral length of said wall panel assembly wherein said frame has an open interior which opens outwardly and is adapted to store cables therein, said box beam structure including opposite facing panels and upper and lower edges which extend horizontally;

a plurality of cover panels, each of said plurality of cover panels including a front side and an interior side, said cover panels being individually mounted to the frame to overlie said open interior wherein a space is formed between the frame and said interior side of a respective said cover panel to permit the passage of cables laterally therethrough, and wherein horizontal gaps are formed along horizontal edges

of said cover panels such that a plurality of said gaps are provided at a plurality of vertical heights on said wall panel assembly; and

a routing arrangement for routing cables through said wall panel assembly, such that a plurality of cable entry or exit pathways are defined by said plurality of horizontal gaps.

40. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, wherein a mounting channel extends along at least one of said upper and lower beam edges for mounting of wall panel components exteriorly of the wall panel assembly.

41. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, which includes cables within said open interior wherein said cables pass through said space and/or said gaps.

42. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, wherein one said cover panel has a first said gap defined along an upper one of said edges of said one cover panel and a second said gap defined along a lower one of said edges of said one cover panel.

43. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 39, wherein said frame includes a top cross member along a top edge of said wall panel assembly adjacent to one said cover panel wherein one said gap is defined between said top cross member and an upper one of said edges of said one cover panel.

44. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 43, wherein said top cross member is adapted to mount office furniture accessories thereon.



45. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 44, wherein said top cross member includes a channel extending horizontally and said wall panel assembly includes an office furniture accessory having a mounting bracket engaged with said channel.

46. (New) A wall panel assembly for an office furniture system, the wall panel assembly comprising:

a frame having horizontal frame members which extend horizontally along a lateral length of said wall panel assembly and having vertical frame members which support said horizontal frame members wherein said frame has an open interior which opens outwardly and is adapted to store cables therein, said frame including a top cross member along a top edge of said wall panel assembly;

said wall panel assembly further having a plurality of vertically spaced apart mounting channels which extend horizontally and are adapted to support mounting brackets of wall panel components; and

a plurality of cover panels, each of said plurality of cover panels including a front side and an interior side, said cover panels being individually mounted to the frame to overlie said open interior wherein horizontal gaps are formed along horizontal edges of said cover panels such that a plurality of said gaps are provided at a plurality of vertical heights on said wall panel assembly to permit exit and entry of cables from and to said open interior of said panel.

47. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 46, wherein one of said horizontal frame members extends along a top panel edge of said wall panel assembly and includes one said channel for supporting wall panel components along said top panel edge.

48. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 47, wherein one said gap is defined between said top cross member and an upper one of said edges of an adjacent one of said cover panels.

49. (New) The wall panel assembly according to Claim 47, wherein said gaps are defined proximate said channels to permit engagement of a mounting bracket with a respective said channel through said adjacent gap.